

The Little Trio

Allison Stanford, Soprano:

Soprano Allison Stanford is currently based in Fort Worth, Texas. She sings with The Little Trio and Classical Fusion, both up and coming chamber music groups, and teaches voice at the University of Texas at Arlington and Tarrant County College. She earned her Master of Music degree in Opera Performance from Arizona State University, and graduated with her Doctorate of Musical Arts in Vocal Performance from ASU in December 2015. Allison earned her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Mississippi. She has sung a variety of roles in opera, operetta, and musical theater, including Laretta in Puccini's Gianni Schicchi, Cleopatra in Handel's Giulio Cesare, The Governess in Britten's The Turn of the Screw, Mabel in Gilbert & Sullivan's Pirates of Penzance, and Lucy in You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown!. Her professional debut was with the Phoenix Symphony, under the baton of Michael Christie, as the Sparrow in their production of the World War II opera Brundibár. She was a finalist in the Texoma Region NATSAA Competition, a past winner of the National Opera Association Competition and a national finalist in both the Macaroni Grill Opera Sing-Off and the Music Teachers National Association Young Artist Competition.

Pinky Simmons, Clarinet

Clarinetist Leslie "Pinky" Simmons has delved deep into the solo and chamber music repertoire, having extensively performed and studied throughout the United States and Europe. Leslie works tirelessly to preserve and promote the sheet music of little known American composers. She is the leading expert on the solo woodwind repertoire of composer Ralph Hermann, former arranger and music director of music at NBC and ABC during the golden age of radio.

Through the organization Beyond the Bar Line, Leslie is creating a program to help musicians bring a greater sense of mindfulness and joy back to their performances, practice and lives. She is extremely excited to be creating a program that will help musicians and non-musicians use music to gain a greater understanding of their mental, spiritual and physical selves.

While completing her Doctorate of Musical Arts at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, she also completed a post-baccalaureate in Peace and Conflict studies, recorded an EP album entitled Preservation with the Imaginary Friends Ensemble, and performed a full East Coast recital tour. She is a multi-talented artist, also performing flute and saxophone on her numerous solo recitals. Leslie is an avid sewer, creating many of her and the trio's costumes. Pinky will soon be adding tap dancing and concertina to many of her performances with The Little Trio! Stay Tuned!

Cheryl Taylor Lemmons, pianist

Cheryl Taylor Lemmons is an active freelance collaborative pianist in Dallas/Fort Worth. She serves as accompanist for University Singers and Cantiamo at Texas Christian University, The Chancel Choir of First Presbyterian Church of Dallas, Mid-Cities Chambers Singers, a semi-professional chorus and the choirs of Coppell High School. In addition to her choral work, Lemmons works as a vocal coach/collaborative pianist with soloists both vocal and instrumental. Her university level students consistently advance to the final levels of competitions and are accepted for study in pre-professional summer programs.

Lemmons is a recitalist with extensive experience accompanying students as well as professionals. In 2008 she performed in the West Coast premiere of John Musto's *Book of Uncommon Prayer* in Malibu, CA. In 2014 she performed with saxophonist, Matthew Sintchak in Sunday Live from the Chazen, at the Chazen Museum in Madison, WI, a concert that was live-broadcast on Wisconsin Public Radio. She performed as guest artist with the Chicago Choral Artist under the direction of Dr. Michael Costello on the inaugural concert of their 40th Anniversary Season in October of 2015. Recently she played for baritone, Will Hughes (Dallas Opera), in a recital for the Dallas Puccini Society. She is the pianist for The Little Trio, with soprano, Allison Stanford and clarinetist, Pinky Simmons, performing an eclectic mix of music ranging from Mozart to Texas swing.

Ann MacMillan, Drummer

Ann MacMillan holds a Bachelor's of music education from Emporia State University and a Master's of music education from the University of North Texas, with a focus on trumpet. She was a member of the UNT Wind Symphony and the 3:00 lab band. Ann started playing drums in junior high but switched her focus to trumpet in high school. After finishing her Master's degree she returned to her love of drums, and now is a member of The Link Chalon Orchestra, and UVER – an original rock band in Denton lead by Fritz Schwalm. She also subs regularly on trumpet and drums with A Taste of Herb, a Herb Alpert cover band. MacMillan started repairing instruments right out of high school and it has turned into her career. Since 1997 she has been the head of the UNT College of Music instrument repair shop, and has been adjunct professor of instrument repair. She has also taught clinics for band directors in the DFW area, Aiken South Carolina, Interlochen summer programs, SMU, and presented clinics at KMEA and TMEA. She is very excited to be playing with The Little Trio!